

The President's Daily Brief

6 October 1969

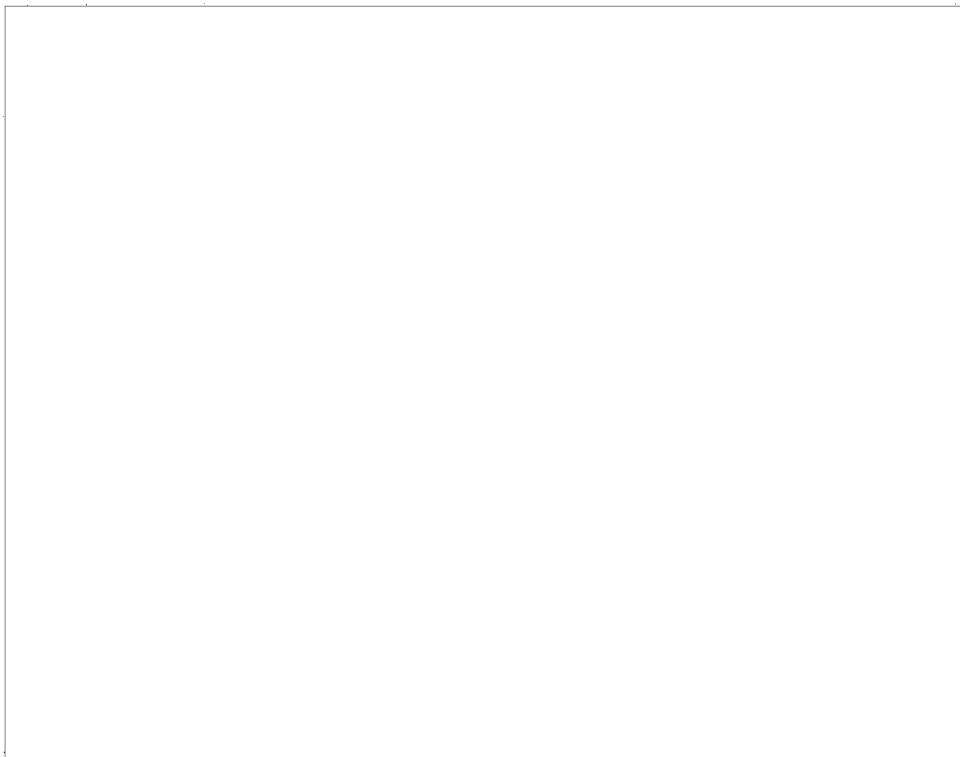
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VIETNAM

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Military activity increased significantly over the weekend in the delta, where the Communists launched rocket and mortar attacks in at least ten of the 16 provinces. Action was light elsewhere in the country.

COMMUNIST CHINA

The Chinese on Saturday

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nuclear tests

The announce-

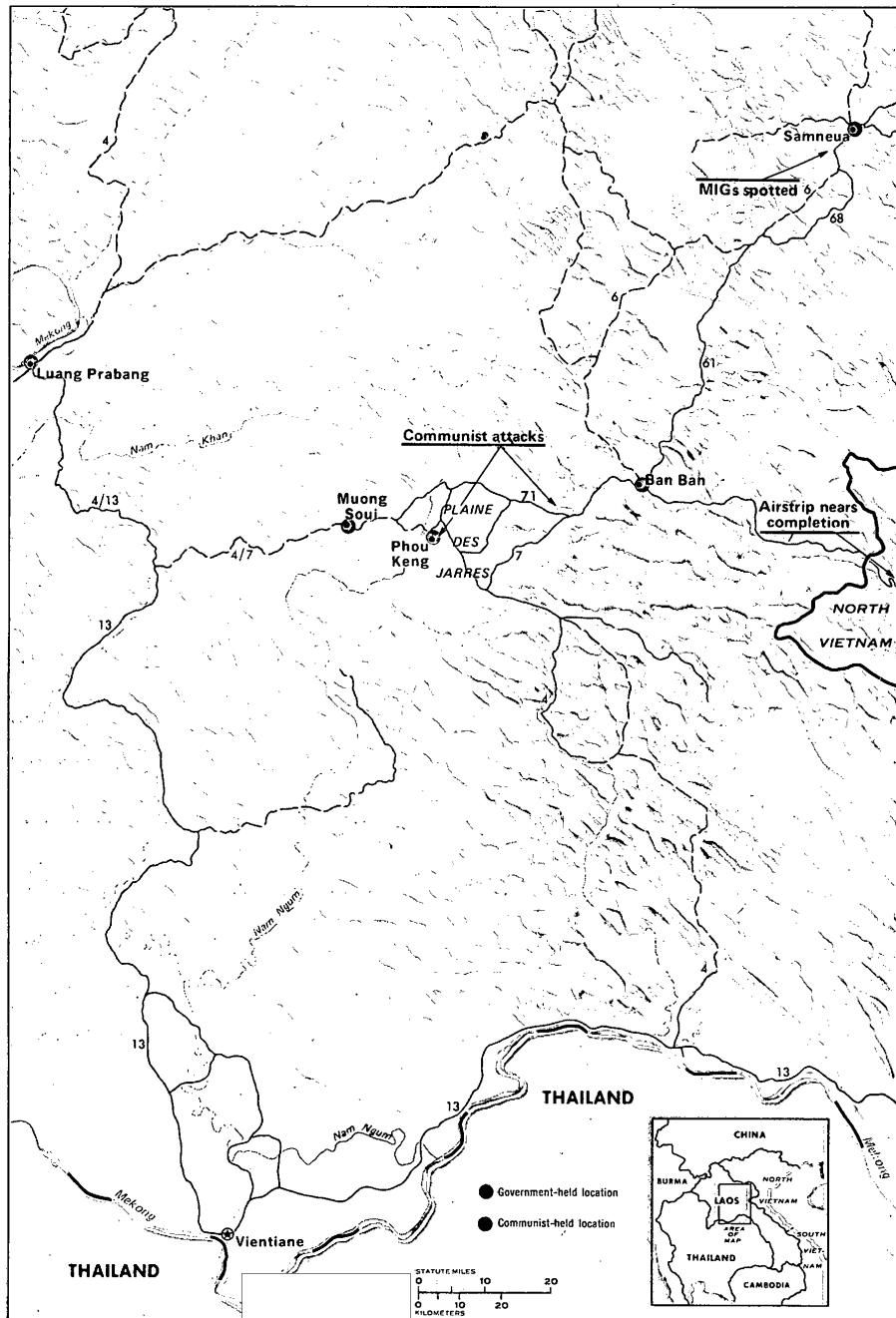
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ment is very low-key, doubtless to harmonize with the nonaggressive image both the Chinese and the Soviets are trying

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Laos: Current Situation



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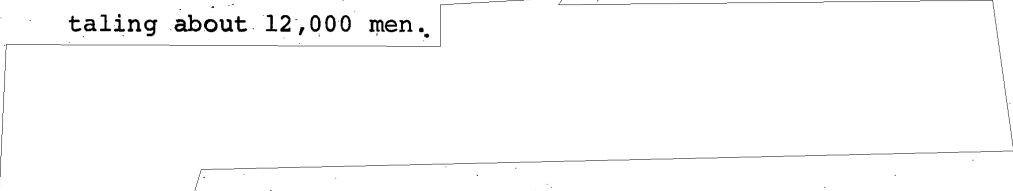
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to convey at the moment. Chou's earlier assurance that China will not be the first to use nuclear weapons is emphatically reiterated.

LAOS

The Communists are continuing their buildup on the northwest and eastern fringes of the Plaine des Jarres, and are harassing government outposts, but they have not yet counter-attacked. (See The President's Daily Brief of 3 October.)

They may be awaiting the arrival of additional members of the North Vietnamese 312th Division and associated elements, totaling about 12,000 men.



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There are signs, including the hurrying to completion of an airstrip close to the Laotian border, that the enemy may seek to provide some air cover and faster logistical support to its forces near the Plaine. This would be a shot in the arm for Communist troops who have been sorely pressed by Laotian and US air strikes.

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